

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Florida Crop Progress and Condition Report



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This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

August 10, 2020 Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, August 9, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain in multiple locations to 6.8 inches in Jacksonville (Duval County). The average mean temperature ranged from 80.6°F in Jasper (Hamilton County) to 87.8°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region experienced warmer than average temperatures, with daily highs in the 90s throughout the region. The highest temperatures reported were in Lake County, with the Central Florida station hitting 97°F and Mount Plymouth reading 95°F. Rainfall was widespread, and in some cases locally heavy. The most rain fell in Muse (Glades County), with 4.1 inches, and in Mount Plymouth (Lake County), at 3.0 inches. According to the August 4, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, most of the citrus growing region remained drought free, though portions of the western and southern areas continued to experience abnormally dry conditions.

Next season's fruit progressed well. Early oranges were about tennis ball size, while Valencia oranges were approximately golf ball size. Grapefruit varied from baseball to softball size. Grove activities included mowing, spraying herbicides, fertilizing, removal of dead trees, planting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation ran in areas that received lesser amounts of rainfall.

Crops

A variety of fruits and vegetables were planted and marketed. Vegetable growers in the southern peninsula continued field preparation for fall planting, including preparing land and laying plastic. Some early tomato planting is likely to begin soon in the southern peninsula. Producers in the central and western parts of the peninsula began preparing for strawberry planting. Corn for grain and silage harvesting continued in the Panhandle and northern peninsula. Although peanut producers remained optimistic regarding the crop, there were reports of ongoing fungus and pest issues, as well as wilting and drought stresses. Some tobacco harvesting was reported in the northern peninsula. Hay cutting activities continued across the state. Sugarcane continued to grow and looked to be in good condition.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. With only spotty rain events throughout much of the state over the last few weeks, pasture growth has not been very abundant.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 08/09/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week		
	(percent)	(percent)		
Very short	9 81	7 11 76 6		

Crop Progress for Week Ending 08/09/20

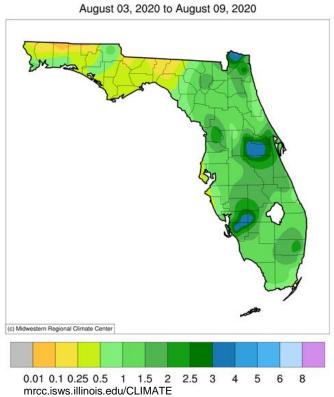
Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Squaring	96	85	95	89
Cotton - Setting Bolls	78	76	80	75
Cotton - Bolls Opening	1	NA	4	1
Peanuts - Pegging	95	94	96	96

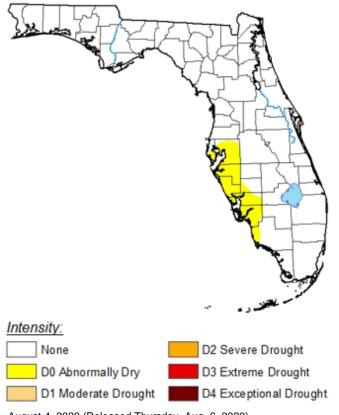
Condition for Week Ending 08/09/20

9							
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent		
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)		
Cattle Cotton Pasture & range Peanuts.	0 1 1 0	2 1 2 1	15 20 16 24	59 77 53 73	24 1 28 2		

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)





August 4, 2020 (Released Thursday, Aug. 6, 2020) https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/